

FISCAL NOTE

HB 484 - SB 403

March 20, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL: Allows full-time public school teachers to attend one course per term at any state supported institution of higher education or any area vocational-technical school without paying tuition charges, maintenance fees, student activity fees or registration fees as follows:.

- Enrollment privileges may be limited or denied on an individual basis according to space availability and shall be on a first-come, first-served basis. Tuition paying students would not be denied enrollment because of public school teacher enrollment.
- The number of students permitted to attend classes beyond the limits established by this bill or the general appropriations act shall be discounted from the effects of the higher education funding formula. Any reimbursements to the state-supported colleges, universities or area vocational-technical schools for such enrollments shall be limited to those funds specifically appropriated for that purpose and would be limited to assessed charges and fees of enrollment.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$6,859,298

Estimate assumes:

- Eligible teachers will use the fee waiver to complete the required coursework for recertification. This will require 10% (5,569) of all active teachers to take one 3-semester hour course each year. Therefore, 5,569 teachers with an average fee waiver cost of \$431.33 each will result in an expenditure of \$2,440,849.
- Eligible teachers who are pursuing graduate degrees will use the fee waiver to cover one 3-hour course each summer. There are 10,049 teachers presently enrolled in Board of Regents and University of Tennessee institutions each summer. Therefore, 10,049 teachers with an average cost of one 3-hour course at \$431.33 will result in an expenditure of \$4,418,469, with a total cost of the program - \$6,859,298
- The teachers eligible to use such fee waiver will be less to the extent funds appropriated for this purpose are not sufficient to meet the needs of all teachers electing to take such courses.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director